

ABSTRACT FOR THE EGS 2001, Nice, 25-30 March 2001

1. PS6.01 Outer planets: Observations of the Jovian system by Galileo and Cassini/Huygens
2. First Submission
3. OVERVIEW OF THE FLYBY OF JUPITER BY CASSINI/HUYGENS
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5. 02 The Cassini/Huygens mission to Saturn and Titan
6. Convener: Johnson, T.V.; Co-Convener(s): Lebreton, J.-P., Matson, D.L.
7. Matson (Pasadena, CA)
8. Standard.
9. NONE
10. ORAL
11. WORD97, ATTACHED
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OVERVIEW OF THE FLYBY OF JUPITER BY CASSINI/HUYGENS

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The *Cassini/Huygens* spacecraft is flying to Saturn in order to carry out an in-depth exploration of Titan and the Saturnian system. *En route* it has already flown by Venus (twice), the Earth, and Jupiter. The closest approach to Jupiter was on December 30, 2000. The weeks surrounding closest approach were a busy time for *Cassini*. Data were being collected to study: • Jupiter's atmospheric composition and dynamics, including the aurora, and heat flow, • Jupiter's rings, • Europa and Callisto with observations exactly at opposition, • Himalia's rotation period, • Io in eclipse, • the interaction of Jupiter's magnetosphere with the solar wind, • Io's dust stream, and • Jupiter's synchrotron radiation. Collaborative studies are also being carried out jointly with the Galileo spacecraft which has been orbiting Jupiter for the last five years. Instruments in Earth-orbit and on the ground are also involved in the collaborative observing efforts.

This talk will present an overview of the *Cassini/Huygens* flyby of Jupiter and provide context and perspective for the status reports which are being presented at this meeting, some ninety-days after the flyby.

The Cassini mission is a joint undertaking by NASA and ESA, with ASI as a partner via a bilateral agreement with NASA. The JPL portion of this work has been carried out under contract with NASA.